Encroachment on Government Land

907. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi is in the grip of encroachment on Government land and construction thereupon and conversion of residential premises into commercial ones;

(b) if so, the reasons for the concerned civic authorities and the DDA to have not taken cognizance of the same on time and the action the Government propose to take now to fight against the menace; and

(c) the number of Civic and DDA employees booked for having permitted the encroachment on Government land and conversion of residential premises into business complexes in the last five years, yearwise indicating the action taken against each one of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c). Unauthorised construction and encroachment on public land and also mis-use of land is a continuing problem and their removal is a continuous process. As and when any encroachment is noticed/reported, action is taken under the provisions of the relevant laws by local agencies with the help of the police, wherever necessary. The position as reported by DDA, MCD, NDMC, Delhi Contonment Board and Delhi Police is as under :

Delhi Development Authority :

The Delhi Development Authority detected 90 cases of unauthorised construction during January to July, 1996. For mis-use of premises, prosecution was launched in 511 cases during 1994-95 and 1995-96. Departmental action against 16 officials was taken and 4 officials were suspended during the last three years.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi :

From 1.1.1994 till date action for major penalty has been initiated against 405 officers. 55 officers have also been placed under suspension during the period.

New Delhi Municipal Council :

The number of cases of unauthorised constructions noticed by New Delhi Municipal Council during 1.1.1996 to 20.7.1996 were 107. Besides this 6 JJ Clusters also exist on N.D.M.C. land.

Delhi Contonment Board :

The number of unauthorised constructions and encroachments reported by the Delhi Contonment Board are 1035 and 378 respectively. Action against the encroachers and unauthorised constructions have been initiated as per law.

Delhi Police

The number of cases in which Delhi Police has taken action against the builders/officials during 1995 and 1996 are as under :

(i) Builder - 1

(ii) MCD official - 1

(iii) Delhi Police officials - 2

Natural Gas

908. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI NANDEO DIWATHE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Shipyard Limited has expressed dismay over the decision of Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) in not awarding the contract for supply of B-55 well platform for use of the Bombay High despite submitting the lowest bid;

(b) if so, the details regarding the facts of the matter and reason/justification for ignoring the lowest price bid by the PSU;

(c) whether the Hindustan Shipyard Limited has represented to the Government against the decision, details thereof; and

(d) the details regarding reaction of the ONGC to the points listed in the representation of HSL and present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, after evaluation of offers, the bid of Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) was not found to be the lowest, as claimed by them.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Basically the representation of HSL relates to the consideration of the price reduction given by M/s. Mazagaon Dock Ltd. (MDL). ONGC has pointed out that the letter of MDL offering the reduction was contained in the same envelope as the price bid. Therefore the reduction was not treated as a discount by ONGC. The contract has been awarded to MDL on 15.10.96.

Slum Development Scheme

909. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated any Slum Development Scheme in Kanpur, Uttar

Pradesh on August 29, 1996 and thereafter administrative officers received directions from the Central Government to implement this scheme immediately.

(b) if so, the details of outline and the total expenditure to be incurred on this scheme, and

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) The Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugarated the National Slum Development Programme on 25th August, 1996 at Kanpur. The guidelines in this regard will be issued shortly.

(b) The Programme aims at development of slums. The total Central outlay for 1996-97 for this scheme is Rs. 250 crores.

(c) Since slum development is an on-going scheme, no such time limit can be fixed.

Dwelling Unit to Homeless

910. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made by the Chairman, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) while addressing a function in New Delhi on the World Habitat Day to the effect that the right to own a descent dwelling should be made a fundamental right;

(b) if so, the Government's response to this demand indicating the estimated number of dwelling units required in rural areas to provide a dwelling unit each family without an abode; and

(c) the estimated number of persons without any abode in rural areas at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan and at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government has drawn up an Action Plan to mitigate rural housing shortage in a time bound manner.

According to 1991 Census, rural housing shortage in India at the beginning of the Eighth Five Year Plan was 13.72 million houses consisting of 3.41 million household without houses and 10.31 million living in unserviceable houses. The present rural housing shortage is estimated to be of the order of about 17 million houses consisting of about 6.7 million households without houses and about 10.3 million households living in unserviceable house.

[Translation]

Prevention of Soil Erosion/Barren Land

911. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether land has been allotted to the 'task force' or para Military forces in Madhya Pradesh during the period from 1992 to September, 1996 to prevent barren land and soil erosion and the amount provided to them by the Central Government for the purpose;

(b) whether the Government propose to solve the problem of the villagers arisen due to imposing a ban on cattle grazing and cutting fodder from the land; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) With the approval of Ministry of Defence, the Department of Wastelands Development has raised a Force of 300 ex-servicemen for development of degraded ravines of Chambal in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh under the command of Territorial Army Directorate. Land for development by the said Force was to be provided by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and the major portion of funds for development of the same were to be provided by the Central Government. The land was to be made available to the Wasteland Development Task Force only for regeneration of wastelands through afforestation including the following activities:

- in-situ soil and moisture conservation;
- plantation;
- maintenance of plantation
- protection.

After completion of the project, the developed land is to be handed over to the State Government/local Panchayats for protection and for providing the benefit of usufructs etc. to the local population. The State Government has made available about 1200 hectares of land for development by the said Force over a period of 3 years and so far the Central Government has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 76 lakhs on it.

(b) and (c). Area where plantation has been/is being done has been closed to grazing for a limited period to protect the plantations done. The Wasteland